

ANNIHILATION: CONQUEST

STARLORD



GIEFEN
GREEN II
OLAZABA
FAIRBAIRN

MARVEL
LIMITED SERIES
1 of 4

RATED T+



\$2.99 US \$3.75 CAN

DIRECT EDITION

ANNIHILATION: CONQUEST



IT IS THE GRIM AFTERMATH OF THE ANNIHILATION WAR. THIS DEVASTATING ASSAULT UPON OUR UNIVERSE BY THE FORCES OF THE NEGATIVE ZONE WAS NARROWLY TURNED BACK BY A RAGTAG GROUP OF WARRIORS INCLUDING THE EARTHMAN PETER QUILL, WHO WAS ONCE KNOWN AS THE SPACE-FARING HERO STAR-LORD.

THE SECTORS OF THE GALAXY NOW LIE IN TATTERS. ENTIRE CIVILIZATIONS HAVE COLLAPSED, OR BEEN REDUCED TO STONE-AGE BARBARISM. IT IS A TIME OF PRIVATION AND HARDSHIP, OF DESPAIR AND GRIEF. ACROSS THE ONCE MIGHTY KREE EMPIRE, SURVIVORS STRIVE TO PUT THEIR LIVES BACK TOGETHER AGAIN, AND TO SECURE WHAT THEY HAVE LEFT AGAINST FUTURE THREATS.

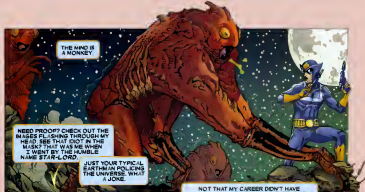
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS CHAOTIC TIME, THE HYPER-AGGRESSIVE TECHNO-ORGANIC RACE KNOWN AS THE PHALANX LAUNCHED A SNEAK ATTACK ON HALA, THE KREE HOMEWORLD, AND CONQUERED THE ENTIRE KREE EMPIRE IN A MATTER OF HOURS. DURING THIS ATTACK, PETER QUILL WAS BADLY INJURED.

THE PHALANX IS NOW INSIDE ALL APPLIED TECHNOLOGY, AND ITS TRANSMODE VIRUS IS SPREADING THROUGH ORGANIC LIFE FORMS AS WELL, MELDING THEM INTO THE PHALANX MATRIX. THE PHALANX ALSO ERECTED AN IMPENETRABLE ENERGY BARRIER, CUTTING THE ENTIRE KREE EMPIRE OFF FROM THE REST OF THE GALAXY. THERE IS NO WAY IN OR OUT.

THE ONLY OPTIONS ARE ASSIMILATION... OR RESISTANCE.

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ANNIHILATION: CONQUEST - STAR-LORD #1, September, 2007. Published monthly by MARVEL PUBLISHERS, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC., 417 6th Avenue, New York, NY 10018. © 2007 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters located in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia, are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, likenesses, personas, actions or attributes in this magazine with those of any being or thing person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. \$3.99 per copy in the U.S. and \$5.75 in Canada (GST #R12305432). In the direct market, Canadian buyers must ADD \$2.00. Printed in the USA. ALAN FINE, CEO Marvel Toys & Publishing Companies and CMO Marvel Entertainment, Inc.; CARO GARIBOLDI, Senior VP of Publishing Sales & Circulation; PHIL KOSOVE, VP of Business Affairs & Financial Operations; MICHAEL FIORELLI, VP Manufacturing & Operations; JIM BOYLA, VP of Publishing Operations; DAN COHEN, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JESSIE F. SAKINE, Managing Editor; SUSAN COLUP, Production Manager; SIMA LEE, Children's Editor. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Joe Blomgren, Advertising Director at jblomgren@marvel.com or 212-570-6034. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-271-0116.



THE MND IS
A MONKEY

NEED PROOF? CHECK OUT THE
IMAGES FLASHING THROUGH MY
HEAD. SEE THAT DOT IN THE
MASK? THAT WAS ME WHEN
I WENT BY THE HUMBLE
NAME STAR-LORD.

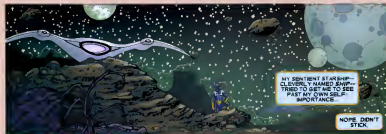
JUST YOUR TYPICAL
EARTHMAN POLICING
THE UNIVERSE. WHAT
A JOKE.

NOT THAT MY CAREER DIDN'T HAVE
ITS MOMENTS. I MEAN, NOT EVERYONE
CONFESSSES THEIR SINS TO THE MASTER OF
THE SUN AND, AS A REWARD, GETS TO ZIP
AROUND THE COSMOS RIGHTING WRONGS.



I NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT THE
WHOLE "MASTER OF THE SUN" THING.
GUESS I WAS TOO SWIFT UP IN HIGH
ADVENTURE AND PAN-GALACTIC
HEROICS.

IN HINDSIGHT, MAYBE I
SHOULD HAVE ASKED A
FEW QUESTIONS, LIKE
"WHAT'S MY REAL
PURPOSE?"




MY SENTIENT STARSHIP--
CLEVERLY NAMED SHIP--
TRIED TO GET ME TO SEE
PAST MY OWN SELF-
IMPORTANCE.

NOPE. DIDN'T
STICK.



SHIP REDEFINED STATE-OF-THE-ART, FRIEND, CONFIDANT, TEACHER AND NAGGING WIFE. ALL ROLLED UP IN ONE SLEEK SPACE CRUISER.

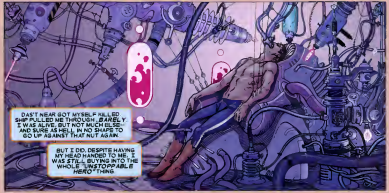
IT WAS SHIP WHO STUMBLED UPON THE OUT-OF-CONTROL, FALLEN ONE, A FORMER HERALD OF GALACTUS, THE COSMIC WHACK-JOB THAT EATS PLANETS.



THE FALLEN ONE WAS GALACTUS' FIRST SHOT AT UPGRADING ONE OF HIS BRRR AND BOYS. SEEMS IT DON'T WORK OUT QUITE THE WAY THE DEVOURER OF WORLDS WANTED. SO HE CUT HIM LOOSE. THINK THERE'S NO FURY LIKE A WOMAN SCORNFED? THINK AGAIN.

EVEN THOUGH THE FALLEN ONE WAS SPURNED, HE WAS STILL HUNTING DOWN ORBS GALACTUS COULD FEED ON, AND DESTROYING THEM. HE WAS TRYING TO STARVE OUT HIS FORMER MASTER.

"WELL, SHIP, THIS LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR STAR-LORD." YEP, I WAS THAT COCKY.



DAST' NEAR GOT MYSELF KILLED. SHIP PULLED ME THROUGH, BARELY. I WAS ALIVE, BUT NOT MUCH ELSE-- AND SURE AS HELL, IN NO SHAPE TO GO UP AGAINST THAT NUT AGAIN.

BUT I DO, DESPITE HAVING MY HEAD HANDLED TO ME. I WAS STILL BUYING INTO THE WHOLE "UNSTOPPABLE HERO" THING.



WE CAUGHT UP WITH THE FALLEN ONE IN A KREE PRINSE SYSTEM. HE HAD TARGETED AVALEEN-- AN AGRICULTURAL WORLD BOASTING A SMALL MINING OPERATION ON ONE OF ITS MOONS.

NOTHING I'D THROWN AT HIM HAD DONE SQUAT. SHOULD HAVE LET ONE OF THE COSMIC BIG BOYS HANDLE IT. BUT NO, I WAS STAR-LORD. REMEMBER?



SHIP RAN AN ANALYSIS OF THE FALLEN ONE AND DISCOVERED THAT THE LIFE ENERGIES RELEASED WHEN HE TOOK DOWN A WORLD COULD CAUSE HIM PAIN.

IF WE COULD CHANNEL THAT ENERGY, WE STOOD A CHANCE OF BRINGING HIM DOWN. THAT MEANT GENERATING THE ENERGY. THAT MEANT SACRIFICING THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS TO SAVE THE LIVES OF MILLIONS.



WE DECIMATED THE MINING COLONY AND FUNNELED THE ENERGY SURGE THROUGH SHIP'S ORDNANCE MATRIX. AND IF THAT SOUNDED COLD IN THE TELLING, WELL, WE HAD NO OTHER CHOICE.

AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT I KEEP TELLING MYSELF.



SHIP DIED IN THE ACT. I WAS A MASS MURDERER. EVERYTHING A STAR-LORD SHOULDN'T BE. AND SO STAR-LORD HAD TO DIE AS WELL.

I TURNED THE FALLEN ONE—AND MYSELF—OVER TO THE NOVA CORPS. AND WHILE MANY WERE DIVIDED OVER MY GUILT, I WAS REMANDED TO THE KYLN, THE LIFE-SSENTENCE EXCLUSIVE PRISON. I WOULD LIVE AMONG MY OWN.



I DON'T REMEMBER GETTING THE FIRST CYBERNETIC IMPLANT. I DON'T REMEMBER MAKING THE DECISION TO RUN AWAY FROM MY HUMANITY.

I DON'T REMEMBER MUCH PAST THE GUILT.

THEN CAME THE ANNIHILATION WAR AND A CHANCE TO ATONE. AND SOME SAY I DID. WHICH BRINGS US TO THE END OF OUR MENTAL MYSTERY TOUR.



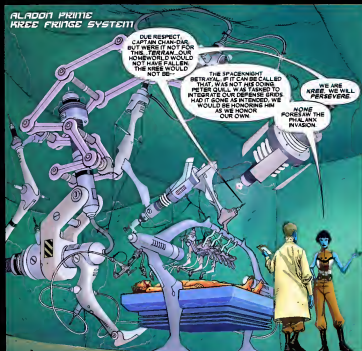
--RECUPERATIVE
RESOURCES COULD
BE BETTER SERVED
THAN THIS. HE
IS NOT KREE.

TAKE IT UP
WITH HIGH COMMAND.
THE ORDER CAME
FROM SUPREME
GENERAL RONAN
HIMSELF.

THE REMOVAL
OF HIS CYBERNETIC
IMPLANTS... ALSO
AT RONAN'S
COMMAND?

AT HIS
SPECIFIC
COMMAND

ALADDIN PRIME KREE FRINGE SYSTEM

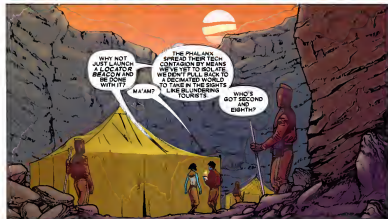


DUE RESPECT,
CAPTAIN CHAN-DAR,
BUT WERE IT NOT FOR
THIS... TERRAN... OUR
HOMEWORLD WOULD
NOT HAVE FALLEN.
THE KREE WOULD
NOT BE--

THE SPACEKNIGHT
BETRAYAL, IF IT CAN BE CALLED
THAT, WAS NOT HIS DOING.
PETER GULL WAS TASKED TO
INTEGRATE OUR DEFENSE GRID.
HAD IT GONE AS INTENDED, WE
WOULD BE HONORING HIM
AS WE HONOR
OUR OWN.

WE ARE
KREE. WE WILL
PERSEVERE.

NONE
FORESAW THE
PHALANX
INVASION.







I'D SOONER
MATE WITH A
BADOON.

FOUR HOURS LATER...



KREE
INTELLIGENCE
FIRST-THIR ADMIRAL
GALEN-KOR WILL
SEE YOU NOW.
QUELL.



‘KREE
INTELLIGENCE’
CURIOUSER AND
CURIOUSER.’

‘ADMIRAL
GALEN-KOR, I
PRESUME?’



TERRAN GIBBERISH.
I DON'T SUPPOSE IT
OCCURRED TO YOU THAT
WHEN WE ORDERED HIS
CYBERNETIC IMPLANTS
REMOVED, HIS UNIVERSAL
TRANSLATION IMPLANT
WAS ENEMY?

YOUR ORDERS
WERE QUITE EXPLICIT.
YOU ORDERED ALL
OF THE IMPLANTS
REMOVED.







YOU REALLY
THE 1TH
STAR-LOD?

I WAS.
"KREE
PURITY"?

HE
IMPREGNATED
A SECOND-
TECH ADVISOR.

THAT'S A
CRIME?

THE
GENETIC
PURITY OF
THE KREE—

DON'T WANT
TO HEAR IT. DO
NOT WANT TO
HEAR IT.

FOR THE
1TH RECORD, I
VOLUNTEERED.

FOR THE
RECORD, I
DIDN'T.

A SHAR.

DEATHCRY, NO
ALIAS. ENHANCED
STRENGTH AND STAMINA.
PRONE TO BERSERKER
RAGES THAT TRIGGER A
FERAL STATE WHEREIN
SHE MANIFESTS NEAR-
INDESTRUCTIBLE
CLAWS.

THIS ONE
HAS HAD KREE
TRAINING. THAT'S
A PLUS.

WHAT
ARE YOU IN
FOR?

DO YOU
CARE?

I
ASKED.

THE KREE DON'T
TAKE KINDLY TO THE
KILLING OF THEIR OWN.
NO MATTER HOW LOW-
BRED OR CRAVEN.

SIX
CHARGES OF
MURDER.

SEVEN.
BUT WHO'S
COUNTING?

ARE THOSE
INHIBITORS
CIRCLING
HER?

A NECESSARY
PRECAUTION. SHE
HAS PROVEN
DIFFICULT.





OPTED AGAINST
DISSECTION?

HE CALLS
HIMSELF CAPTAIN
UNIVERSE--

HE
WOULD.

YOU'VE
HEARD OF THE
UNI-POWER?

I'M GUESSING
HE HAS IT.

RIGHT, AS NEAR
AS WE CAN DETERMINE.
THE UNI-POWER IS A
FORM OF SENTIENT
ENERGY THAT TAKES
ON A HOST IN TIMES
OF NEED.

YOU SHOULD
PEEL RIGHT AT
HOME. THE CURRENT
HOST IS ALSO A
TERRAN



YOU HAVE
A NAME?

GABRIEL
VARGAS, SIR.

I'M PETER
PETER QUILL.
WHAT BRINGS
YOU OUT HERE?

GAINED THESE
POWERS RECENTLY.
THOUGHT I'D PUT
THEM TO GOOD USE.



DECIDED TO
PURSUE YOUR DESTINY,
GABRIEL? COULDN'T
SAVE THE
GALAXY?

SOMETHING
LIKE THAT, SIR.

YOU MILITARY,
GABRIEL? COULDN'T
HELP NOTING
THOSE "SRS."

EX-MILITARY
GOT BANGED UP
WHAT WAS LEFT
OF ME GOT
HONORABLY
DISCHARGED.

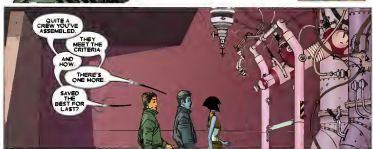
WHAT'S HE
DOING TIME
FOR?

PUT HIMSELF
IN THE MIDDLE OF A
KREE MILITARY SEARCH
AND-DESTROY. CHARGED
WITH AIDING AND
ABETTING THE
ENEMY.

I WAS
HELPING THE
INNOCENT!





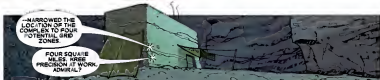




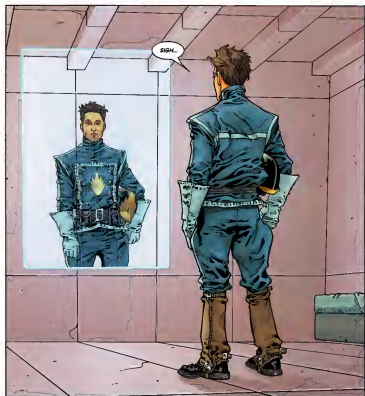
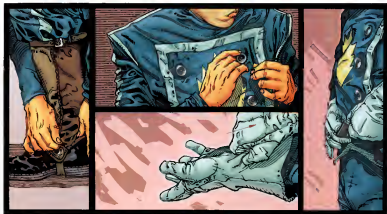
YOU
CAN'T BE
SERIOUS.

GROOT, NO
ALIAS. FLORA-
ORGANISM. SELF-
PROCLAIMED
MONARCH OF
PLANET X.

A
WALKING
TREE?













YOUR
LIPS TO MY
EARS...

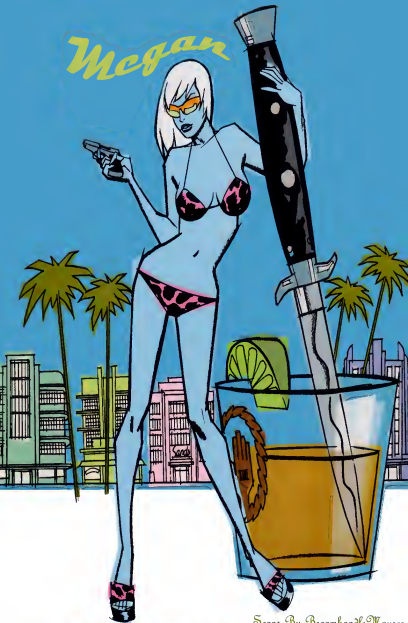
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